

VERIFYING SUBJECT MATTER COMPETENCE

MULTIPLE SUBJECT TEACHING CREDENTIALS

The Commission-approved subject-matter examination that may be used to verify subject-matter competence for the California Multiple Subject Teaching Credential is administered by Educational Testing Service (ETS®). ETS administers the **Multiple Subjects Assessment for Teachers (MSAT)** under the program title *The Praxis Series: Professional Assessments for Beginning Teachers®*. MSAT registration procedures, forms, and test locations are included in *The Praxis Series Registration Bulletin*. Information about the content of the MSAT examination is available in the *Test at a Glance* booklet published by ETS. These materials are available at university teacher education offices and test centers, the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing, or from ETS at the address or phone number listed below.

The MSAT exam is comprised of two test sections: (1) the *Content Knowledge* section consists of 120 multiple-choice questions and (2) the *Content Area Exercises* section consists of 18 constructed-response questions. The two tests measure knowledge in seven content areas: literature and language studies, mathematics, history/social sciences, science, visual and performing arts, human development, and physical education.

The following pages contain charts that describe both the past and present examinations required to verify subject-matter competence for the Multiple Subject Teaching Credential. The 1996/97 test dates and fees, and the test passing scores are also provided. Prior exam information is included because passing scores may be used for a period of five years from the date the test was taken and passed, and because the passing scores for the MSAT have changed twice since the test was implemented in 1992. Examples are provided to help clarify exam passing scores.

If you have questions about the subject-matter examinations required for credentialing, please call the Commission at (916) 445-7254 any workday afternoon between 12:30 and 4:30 PM or write to the address listed above. If you have questions about the administration of the MSAT examination, please contact ETS at the address or phone number listed below.

The Praxis Series
Educational Testing Service
P.O. Box 6051
Princeton, NJ 08541-6051
Phone: 800-772-9476

TEST DATES AND TEST FEES

MULTIPLE SUBJECT TEACHING CREDENTIALS

TEST DATES:

Multiple Subjects Assessment for Teachers (MSAT)

| <u>Test Date</u> | <u>Regular Registration*</u> | <u>Late Registration*</u> |
|------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 2/1/97 | 12/31/96 | 1/7/97 |
| 5/3/97 | 4/1/97 | 4/8/97 |
| 7/12/97 | 6/10/97 | 6/17/97 |

*Date registration forms must be received at ETS

TEST FEES:

Registration (per test date) \$30

Multiple Subjects Assessment for Teachers (MSAT)

Content Knowledge (#10140) \$55

Content Area Exercises (#20151)..... \$85

California Surcharge Fee:**

Per MSAT Test \$15

Service Fees:

Late Registration \$30

Test or Center Change \$25

Standby Registration \$55

File Correction \$20

Rescore of Content Knowledge Test..... \$30

Score Verification of Content Area Exercises \$75

Additional Score Reports \$20

** Also known as the Test Development and Administration Fee. If both sections of the MSAT were passed prior to October 26, 1996, this \$30 fee must be submitted to the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing at the time of application for a Multiple Subject Teaching Credential or Emergency Multiple Subject Teaching Permit.

SUBJECT MATTER EXAMINATIONS FOR MULTIPLE SUBJECT TEACHING CREDENTIALS

The following chart lists the titles, numbers and passing scores for the examinations that have been used to verify subject matter competence for Multiple Subject Teaching Credentials for the past five years. If you passed the General Knowledge Section of the NTE Core Battery prior to 10/24/92 or you have passed all sections of the MSAT (under either NTE or Praxis Series), you may use those passing scores to verify the subject matter competence requirement for a period of five years from the date the examination was passed. If you have passed part of the MSAT, you may use that score to satisfy that part of the requirement for a period of five years. If you have not yet passed an examination, you must take and pass the new Praxis Series MSAT examinations. The Praxis Series examinations are highlighted in gray on the chart below.

| EXAMINATION AND NUMBER | Passing | Minimum | Test Length |
|--|---------|---------|-------------|
| NTE CORE BATTERY -- Passed prior to 10/24/92 | | | |
| Core Battery General Knowledge Section | 660 | n/a | |
| NTE MULTIPLE SUBJECTS ASSESSMENT FOR TEACHERS (MSAT) | | | |
| <i>Test date 10/24/92:</i> | | | |
| Content Knowledge (#14)..... | 156 | 148 | |
| Content Area Exercises 1 & 2 (#15 & 16) | 152 | 143 | |
| Overall MSAT Passing Score | 308 | | |
| <i>Test dates 1/23/93, 3/6/93 and 6/12/93:</i> | | | |
| Content Knowledge (#14)..... | 156 | 148 | |
| Content Area Exercises 1 & 2 (#15 & 16) | 155 | 147 | |
| Overall MSAT Passing Score | 311 | | |
| PRAXIS SERIES MSAT -- Use Praxis Registration Bulletin beginning 10/23/93 | | | |
| Multiple Subjects Assessments for Teachers (MSAT) | | | |
| Content Knowledge (#10140) | 156 | 148 | 2 Hrs. |
| Content Area Exercises (#20151) | 155 | 147 | 3 Hrs. |
| Overall MSAT Passing Score | 311 | | |

INTERPRETING YOUR SCORE

You can pass the MSAT by achieving scores at or above the individual passing scores on both sections of the test. You can also pass by scoring at or above the individual minimum scores on both sections **AND** earning a total score that equals or exceeds the overall MSAT passing score. You may combine passing and minimum scores from several administrations, but must meet the overall MSAT passing score applicable to the test administration of the most recent test scores used.

EXAMPLE 1: An applicant earned a score of 148 on the *Content Knowledge* section and a score of 160 on the *Content Area Exercises 1 & 2* during the 10/24/92 MSAT administration. Although the 148 *Content Knowledge* score is not passing, it is at or above the minimum. The *Content Area Exercises 1 & 2* score is high enough to boost the overall MSAT score to 308. This is a passing MSAT score.

EXAMPLE 2: An applicant earned a score of 146 on the *Content Knowledge* section and score of 162 on the *Content Area Exercises 1 & 2* section during the 10/24/92 MSAT administration. The 146 *Content Knowledge* score is below passing and below the minimum. The applicant did not meet the subject matter competence requirement. He or she must now retake the *Content Knowledge* section and earn a minimum score of 149 to achieve the current overall score of 311 in order to qualify for the Multiple Subject Credential.

EXAMPLE 3: An applicant earns a score of 150 on the *Content Knowledge* section and a score of 156 on the *Content Area Exercises 1 & 2* section during the 3/6/93 MSAT administration. The 150 *Content Knowledge* score is not passing, but it is above the minimum. Although the *Content Area Exercises 1 & 2* score is passing, it is not high enough to bring the overall passing score to the required 311. The applicant must retake one or both of the tests to bring the overall score to at least 311 to satisfy the subject matter requirement for the Multiple Subject Credential.

APPLYING FOR YOUR MULTIPLE SUBJECT TEACHING CREDENTIAL

When you have verified subject matter competence by meeting the passing score requirements of the MSAT and have completed the other requirements for the preliminary or professional clear credential explained on the Multiple Subject information leaflet (CL561), you may submit your application for the credential. Your application must include:

- completed application form 41-4
- current application fee
- ETS score report
- thirty dollar (\$30) test development and administration fee must be submitted **only if both sections of the MSAT were passed prior to October 26, 1996.**
- verification of other requirements as applicable